

In the Specification:

On page 8, line 17, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 14 and ending at line 17 with the following:

For better applicability to women's shoes having extremely elongated heels, the heel guard 10 may also be provided with a high heel aperture 15 disposed in the bottom member 17, as shown in Figures 1 and 4. The aperture 15 may also be hemmed with an elastic member 18 ~~16~~ to increase durability and retention properties.